

REMARKS

Claims 1-38 are pending in this application. Claims 39-42 were previously canceled. Claims 19-38 were withdrawn from consideration as relating to a non-elected species. Claims 1, 4, 12, and 13 are in independent form. Claims 2-3, 11, and 15-18 depend from claim 1, and claim 14 depends from claim 13. Claims 1 and 4 have been amended. In particular, claim 1 has been amended in view of the Examiner's comments with respect to Gregory in his "Responses to Arguments" section of the office action and claim 4 has been amended into independent form in view of the indication of allowable subject matter. Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 4-10 and 12-14. These claims are believed to be in condition for allowance. No new matter has been entered by any of the amendments.

In the office action, the Examiner rejected claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite—pointing to applicant's usage of the terms "selectively spray." Applicant hereby defines "selectively spray" to mean that one or the other type of spray may be "selected" at any given time by a user. In particular, with respect to claim 1, the user may "select" a fluid only OR a fluid and a second chemical in the high pressure range. Both types of spray do not occur at the same time—they are "selected." However, the device must be capable of spraying both spray types. In addition, applicant has amended claim 1 to point out that the user is capable of selecting the spray as fluid only OR as a fluid plus a second chemical. Based upon this clarification, applicant respectfully submits that this rejection is obviated.

Claims 1-3, 5, 11, and 15-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,164,496 to Gregory and U.S. Patent No. 5,383,605 to Teague. Claim 6 was also rejected based upon the combination of Gregory, Teague, and U.S. Patent No. 5,405,086 to Kranzle. As the Examiner implied in his "Response to Arguments" section, Gregory does not teach selecting a fluid plus a second chemical in the high pressure range. Gregory only teaches spraying a fluid alone in the high pressure range. Claim 1 has been amended to point out that the pressure washer can spray both a fluid alone and a fluid plus a second chemical. This spray occurs "selectively," as defined above. In view of this amendment, applicant submits that the combination of references cited by the Examiner does not meet all the limitations of the claims and that the claims are allowable over the cited combination.

Teague does not remedy the deficiencies of Gregory because it only teaches using chemicals at a single pressure. There does not appear to be any teaching or suggestion in Teague that the pressure of the device may be regulated. In addition, Teague does not teach a second chemical inlet positioned on the external member. Teague's chemical inlets are all positioned in tube 67, which is adjacent the pump 58 (shown best in Fig. 1 of Teague). Gregory teaches a chemical inlet positioned downstream of the nozzle (see Fig. 3, ref. 92), but does not teach that the chemical can be sprayed at high pressure. Thus, neither reference teaches that a chemical can be sprayed at a high pressure setting. For these reasons, applicant submits that claim 1 is allowable over the cited combination.

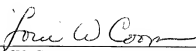
With respect to claim 6, Kranzle only adds a cart, but does not remedy the deficiencies discussed above in connection with Gregory and Teague. Thus, claim 6 is also submitted to be allowable over the cited combination. In addition, claims 2-3, 11, and 15-18 are submitted to be allowable over the cited combinations for the reasons discussed above.

In view of the above arguments and amendments, applicant submits that the claims are in condition for allowance, early notice of which will be appreciated. Should the Examiner disagree, applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner contact applicant's representative for a telephonic interview so that any remaining issues can be resolved.

No fees are believed to be due with the submission of this Amendment. Should any fees be required, the Commissioner is authorized to charge such fees to deposit account No. 50-1432.

Respectfully submitted,

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